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**United States Patent [19]****Friend et al.****Patent Number: 5,247,190****Date of Patent: Sep. 21, 1993****[54] ELECTROLUMINESCENT DEVICES**

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313/504

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257/70, 103

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**ABSTRACT**

An electroluminescent device comprises a semiconductor layer (4) in the form of a thin dense polymer film comprising at least one conjugated polymer, a first contact layer (5) in contact with a first surface of the semiconductor layer, and a second contact layer (3) in contact with a second surface of the semiconductor layer. The polymer film (4) of the semiconductor layer has a sufficiently low concentration of extrinsic charge carriers that on applying an electric field between the first and second contact layers across the semiconductor layer so as to render the second contact layer positive relative to the first contact layer charge carriers are injected into the semiconductor layer and radiation is emitted from the semiconductor layer. The polymer film can be poly(p-phenylenevinylene) [PPV] of formula (I) wherein the phenylene ring may optionally carry one or more substituents each independently selected from alkyl (preferably methyl), alkoxy (preferably methoxy or ethoxy), halogen (preferably chlorine or bromine) or nitro.

**14 Claims, 4 Drawing Sheets**